

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Ms. TITUS Mr. Speaker, I was absent October 2, 2017 through October 10, 2017 due to the horrific 1 October tragedy that occurred in my district. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Roll no. 544—H.R. 1547—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA

Roll no. 545—H.R. 965—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended: YEA

Roll no. 546—H. Res. 548—On ordering the previous question: NAY

Roll no. 547—H. Res. 548—On agreeing to the resolution: NAY

Roll no. 548—H.R. 36—On motion to recommit with instructions: YEA

Roll no. 549—H.R. 36—On passage: NAY

Roll no. 550—S. 782—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended: YEA

Roll no. 551—H. Res. 553—On ordering the previous question: NAY

Roll no. 552—H. Res. 553—On agreeing to the resolution: NAY

Roll no. 553—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: YEA

Roll no. 554—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: YEA

Roll no. 555—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: NAY

Roll no. 556—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: YEA

Roll no. 557—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the resolution: NAY

Roll no. 55—H.R. 1858—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA

Roll no. 559—H.R. 2464—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA

HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY'S NEWPORT NEWS ALUMNAE CHAPTER

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th anniversary of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Newport News Alumnae Chapter.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was founded in 1913 by 22 students attending Howard University. These women all saw education and community service as the key to pushing forward the cause of civil rights and progress for the African American community, and that mission remains strong to this day. Today, Delta Sigma Theta has grown to an organization with over 250,000 members and over 940 local chapters operating all over the United States and the world.

The Newport News Alumnae Chapter was originally chartered in 1937 as the Beta Kappa Chapter. It was then changed to the Gamma Iota Sigma Chapter in 1947 before officially becoming the Newport News Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in 1960. The

Chapter was dutifully led in these early years by Charter members Marian Palmer Capps, Clara Pannell, Ethel Pannell, Sallie Watkins Roberts, Dorothy Roles Watkins, Olivia Williamson, and Christine Jefferson Haynes.

The women of the Newport News Alumnae Chapter are committed to the same honored tradition of community service that has driven all of Delta Sigma Theta's members since its inception. Delta Sigma Theta's sisterhood has always been guided by the sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust of Economic Development, Education Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement. It is with these principles in mind that the Newport News Alumnae Chapter established the programs that continue to serve their local community to this day.

Delta Sigma Theta's unwavering commitment to serving the needs of African Americans has been truly reflected through the good work pursued by the Newport News Alumnae Chapter over the years. The Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy provides young girls between 11 and 14 years old with the opportunity to pursue their interests in math, science, and technology. The Delta GEMS program offers college and career planning to at-risk teenage girls who may otherwise not understand the opportunities available to them. The EMBODI program addresses the challenges facing African-American boys by providing middle and high schoolers with counseling and support in subject areas such as fostering healthy relationships, fiscal management, physical and mental health, self-efficacy, and more. These programs provide an invaluable service to the youth of Newport News.

Mr. Speaker, as the Newport News Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority celebrates this exciting milestone, its members can feel affirmed that these past 80 years of fellowship and outreach have left the Newport News community stronger and more united than it otherwise would have been. I would like to congratulate Chapter President Joyce Melvin-Jones and all of the members of the Newport News sisterhood on this special occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE 275TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a momentous anniversary. This year marks the 275th anniversary of Fairfax County, which I am proud to represent in this chamber and which I represented prior to my election to this body for 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including five years as Chairman.

In 1737, Lord Thomas Fairfax of Cameron took possession of a piece of land that included all of what is now Loudoun, Arlington and Fairfax Counties in addition to the cities of Falls Church, Fairfax and Alexandria. At the time, all of this land was part of Prince William County. Installing his cousin William as the managing agent for that land, Lord Fairfax de-

parted back to England to cement his claim. In 1742, William arranged for that piece of land to be officially designated as Fairfax County.

This new county was home to many Americans who would have an impact on our country, most notably future President George Washington. In addition, Fairfax was home to the man who many credit with the creation of the Bill of Rights, George Mason. Working with a member of Virginia's congressional district (and future President himself) James Madison, Mason argued for the creation of amendments to the newly-created U.S. Constitution to protect individual freedoms. Indeed, Mason was one of only three delegates to the Constitutional Convention to refuse to sign the new document because of his concerns that the federal government would be abusive of its authority absent a document like the Bill of Rights.

Fairfax County also played a role in another pivotal time on our Nation's history, the Civil War. The courthouse in Fairfax City served as a headquarters for the U.S. Army and the remains of several forts can still be found throughout the county today. The founder of the Red Cross, Clara Barton, treated wounded soldiers at St. Mary's Church in Fairfax Station, an experience that would eventually lead her to found that organization. While the County was largely spared from major battles (with the exception of the Battle of Ox Hill in 1862), raids and skirmishes between Union and Confederate forces were frequent and portions of the County changed hands several times over the course of the war.

Mr. Speaker, the history of Fairfax County is intimately intertwined with the history of the United States. Although the founders of this County could not have known the future that awaited their holdings, I suspect the evolution from a rural farming community to today's suburban community of over 1 million would please them greatly. Fairfax County has consistently been rated among the best places in the country in which to live, work, raise a family and start a business. Indeed, it stands as an example of a community that consistently sees beyond the years. I was proud to serve it on the Board of Supervisors and have been proud to represent it in this body. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Fairfax County on this important anniversary.

CIVIL RIGHTS

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative VEASEY, and our colleague Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, for joining me at the Center for African American Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington last Thursday evening. It was a wonderful experience for me and President Vistasp Karbhari, Dr. Jason Skelton and my longtime friend Dr. Marvin Delaney were perfect hosts.

Earlier this month, Sergeant La David T. Johnson died a hero's death in a distant land on a mission few Americans know about or understand.

This weekend, his grieving family, including his pregnant wife, took him to his final resting